(b) if so, what are the names of countries and the details of agreement signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING NDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Promotions of S-1 grade Scientists in ICAR

2199. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scientists of S-I grade with Ph.D degree and having more than 13 years of experience in Agricultural Research Service or equivalent service under Indian Council of Agricultural Research who were in the employment of the ICAR including its institutes as on Ist January, 1986; and

(b) whether Government propose to consider their placement/promotion in the pay scale of Rs. 3700-5700 in terms of U.G.C. pay package which has been implemented for the scientists of ICAR with effect from Ist January, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Sir, there were only two S-I Scientists on 1.1.1986 who had done Ph.D and had entered the service on ICAR before 1.1.1973.

(b) The U.G.C. pay package does not envisage such placement/promotion.

Affairs of Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board

2200. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB) is answerable for its work and activities to the Minister of Agriculture who is also the President of Indian Council of Agricultural Research;

(b) if so, the details of mechanism and procedure adopted by Government to supervise and guide the activities of the ASRB in policy matter;

(c) whether recommendations made by the ASRB regarding promotion and direct recruitment of scientists are approved by the Minister;

(d) whether any complaints has been received by the Agriculture Minister regarding an attempt on part of the Chairman ASRB to circumvent the decision taken by the Minister in accordance with prescribed rules and procedure as an appellate authority in the matter of scientist's assessment/review for the purpose of promotion; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and actior taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Agricultural Scientist's Recruitment Board is required to submit annually by the second week of May of the year following the financial year a report on its activities for each financial year to the President, I.C.A.R.

(c) The Agricultural Scientist's Recruitment Board functions as an independent recruiting agency and is responsible for recruitment to posts in the Agricultural Research Service of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Their recommendations are submitted for consideration to the Agriculture Minister who is his capacity as President, ICAR is the appointing authority for the scientists in the Agricultural Research Service.

(d) and (e) A complaint was received from a Scientists alleging that (i) a rereview of assessment ordered by the President was delayed by 15 months by the Chairman, ASRB; and that (ii) the Chairman, ASRB was biased against him. The complaint of this Scientist was looked